STATEMENT

State	City
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
	Vijayawada
	Tirupati
	Guntur
	Vishakapatnam
	Amlapuram
	Kakinada
	Rajmundry
	Warrangal
Bihar	Patna
	Biharsharif
	Hazi pur
	Badh
	Arah
	Rajgir
	Sasavam
	Bhabua
Tamil Nadu	Chennai
	Madurai
	Coimbatore
	Mahabalipuram
	M.M. Nagar
	Minjur
West Bengal	Calcutta
	Haldia
Punjab	Chandigarh
	Ludhiana

Activiation of STD facility of International Buddhist Centre, Rajgarih, Bihar

† 201. SHRI RAMDEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-restoration of independent S.T.D. facility of International Buddhist tourism centre Rajgarih so far which is non-functional since* Oct., 1999;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in this regard in various daily newspapers of Bihar like 'Hindustan', 'Aaj', 'Dainik Jagran' in the month of June;

(c) whether the Minister of Communications has given an assurance to *restore* such a facility within one week *to* the delegation which came *to* Delhi from Rajgarih; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, The Rajgrih SDCA was merged with Bihar Sharif SDCA for introduction of local dialing codes 923/928 between Patna and Rajgrih at 180 Sec. Pulse rate. This resulted in heavy conjestion of traffic effecting the STD services from Rajgarih.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) To improve the services an additional 2MB/s stream on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) links has been provided between Patna and Rajgarih. At present there is no congestion of traffic and the STD services from Rajgarih *is* satisfactory.

PCO/STD/ISD booths in various part of the Country

202. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

the number of PCO/STD/ISD booths installed in metropolitan cities. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and NER during the last three years, district-wise, category-wise;

the number of applications lying pending for the installation of such booths in these States;

the reasons for their pendency; and

the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The information is given in the statement, telecom district-wise (see below). The category-wise details of the franchises are not maintained.